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Secta. II-37—100,000—31-8-40.

Development (1941) Department.

Miscellaneous SERIES.

G.O. No. Letter No 4949

Dated 20.10.1941.

[Despatch Abstract.]

...ts - Softwood species - Supply to match ~~industry~~ industries.

No. I(1)-16(68)/46.
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.
Department of Industries and Supplies.

New Delhi, the 22nd November 1946.

To

All Provincial Governments.

Sub:- Reservation of certain matchwood species for the match industry.

Sir,

I am directed to say that it has been suggested to the Government of India that in view of the present shortage of suitable timber for the match industry arrangements may be made to reserve three of the more important Indian matchwood species, viz., Bombax Malabaricum, Ailanthus Malabaricum and Trewia Nudiflora for the exclusive use of the match industry. In this connection the Government of India have been advised that it would not be profitable though it would have been much better, for the match industry to lease their own forests as the species are found widely scattered. It is understood that in nearly all the forests the annual corps are leased to purchasers who have absolute right of disposal of trees once purchased. In the circumstances the best course would appear to be for the match firms to come to terms with the lease-holders. The other rivals in the field, e.g. plywood industry and caseboard manufacturers can with equal advantage and without much inconvenience use many other species not suitable for match making and in any case as matches must rank higher in the essentiality list of Consumer Goods, the industry deserves preferential treatment. I am accordingly to request that this Department may kindly be informed what assistance it would be possible for the Provincial Government to render in this connection and the exact manner in which the Provincial Government propose to do so.

Yours faithfully,

Abdul Hakim,
Under Secretary to the Govt.
of India.

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GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.
Development Department.

Letter No. 4949 (Miscellaneous).

From
Sri. K.G. Menon, I.C.S.,
Joint Secretary to Government.

To

The Secretary to the Government of India,
Ministry of Industries and Supply,
New Delhi.

Dated, Fort St. George, the 20th October 1947.

Sir,

Sub:- Forests - Softwood species - Supply to match industry.

Ref:- Government of India's letter No. 1(1)-16(68)/46 dated 2.11.1946.

I am directed to state that in order to

avoid a possible shortage of matches under the present conditions, the Government of Madras have decided to continue for one more year the practice adopted during the war years of leasing softwood species from Government Forests to match factories on negotiated terms and have asked the Chief Conservator of Forests to see that the rates fixed in respect of small match factories working more or less on a cottage industry basis are lower than those charged to bigger concerns, like the Western India Match Company Limited.

2. It has also been suggested that a provision may be included in the forest coupe leases requiring that match wood species should be sold by lessees only to match factory owners at a price within a fixed maximum. The Chief Conservator of Forests, Madras, has already issued instructions for the sale of the 1947-48 fuel coupes in the Tinnevelly division, subject to the condition that all match wood species should be sold to match factory owners at the rates approved by the Conservator concerned. Necessary provision was also made in the connected sale notice and it was announced at the time of the sale of the 1947-48 coupes that all the soft wood species marked and reserved in the coupes should be supplied at annas 9/- per c.ft. to match factory owners, out of which annas 5/- would be the charge for extraction and transport to the cart track and annas 4/- would be the seignorage payable t the Government. It was made clear to the contractors that if the match factory owners found the extraction charge of annas 5/- to be high, they should be allowed to make their own arrangements fo the extraction.

3. I am to add that certain other suggestions made for helping the match industry as a long range policy are under consideration.

Yours faithfully,

(Sd) K.G. Menon,
Joint Secretary to Governme

opy To the Chief Conservator of Forests.

/True copy/ S. Jagannadan 6/5.

Office Assistant,
Madras Record Office.

k.y.s.